

NEW YORK TIMES

Approved For Release 1999/09/07 : CIA-RDP75-00001R000200010037-5



The New York Times.

ADOLPH S. Ochs, Publisher 1896-1935

PUBLISHED EVERY DAY IN THE YEAR BY THE NEW YORK TIMES COMPANY

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Javits for Senator

A man who speaks up so volubly—and articulately—on so many issues, ready to give his opinion at the drop of a hat on virtually any question that arises in foreign or domestic affairs, is bound to make mistakes, and Senator Jacob K. Javits, running for re-election on the Republican ticket, has made them. But Mr. Javits, well informed, widely traveled, a tireless worker, with a fervent interest in the well-being of his fellow-man, is on the right side of most issues most of the time.

His position on foreign affairs has been generally above narrow partisanship and generally correct—with a recent lapse on Cuba. On that touchy subject he has in our judgment erred in asking for unilateral action against Cuba "if it is necessary" and a change from "a policy of surveillance" to one of "decision"—words and phrases that in the present inflamed situation could easily be interpreted as paving the way to armed invasion, which is the last thing that would be in the interests of the United States.

Senator Javits has been an ardent advocate of civil rights and civil liberties. On social welfare legislation he stands far ahead of his party average. He has been an increasingly effective spokesman for New York, standing out in a Congressional delegation whose influence at Washington has long been impaired by its chronic, prevalent (with a few exceptions) mediocrity.

We endorse Senator Javits for re-election. His Democratic-Liberal opponent, James B. Donovan, is a respected lawyer and vice president of the New York City Board of Education. He has recently been busy with the negotiations to free the prisoners Castro took during last year's invasion of Cuba and has given his time generously to several other assignments in the public service. But the voters of the state have had little opportunity to know him or his views on national and international issues. They do know what Mr. Javits stands for and they know the quality of his work in Washington. So the preference goes decidedly to Senator Javits.

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